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SOURCE Hua Shang Pao.

PAPER INDUSTRY  
BEING RESTORED IN NORTHEAST

The government-operated paper and pulp mills in Northeast China are speedily being restored to normal production. The continual disturbances since VJ Day and conflicts between CCP and KMT troops have all contributed to the destruction and dwindling production. Now that peace in the area has been restored, all efforts are being made to increase production beyond the peak production level of the puppet Manchukuo regime.

At present, there are seven large government-operated paper and pulp mills in Northeast China. They are:

- Chi-lin (Kirin) Mill (Ueda: 1172, 4803), includes Chiu-chan Plant (107, 8363)
- An-tung Mill No 1 (2309, 4765)
- "    "    No 2
- "    "    No 3
- Yin-k'ou Mill (6984, 1141)
- Shih-hsien Mill (7954, 2592)
- Shen-yang (Mukden) General Mill (6686, 12876), includes Shen-yang Branch No. 1, Shen-yang Branch No 2, and the Lieh-yang Plant (6541, 12876)

There are also three sulfur-iron mines and three paper and pulp mills operated by the Enterprise Control Bureau of the Ministry of Industry, North-east Executive Committee. They are:

- Chin-shou Mill (12523, 2764)
- K'ai-yuan " (12716, 1074)
- Tun-hua " (4281, 928)

Except for the Sheng-yang Mill, all were damaged or destroyed during CCP-KMT conflicts. Seventy percent of the paper-making machinery and all of the boilers and electrical equipment of the An-tung mills were demolished. Ten or more buildings and warehouses of the Shih-hsien Mill were burned down by bandits. Other mills were in a state of suspended or partial production during the KMT control. All of these mills are now being restored and the full-scale production is expected soon.

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Paper and pulp making machinery in these mills now include: 25 paper-making machines, 29 pulp boilers or digesters, 8 hemp-cutting machines, 82 breakers or beaters, 2 pulp-making machines, 119 bleaching and sizing machines and other equipment, such as pulp grinders, log slicers, and chemical-mixing machines.

The highest annual paper production during the puppet regime was 100,000 tons of pulp and 76,000 tons of paper. The shortage of machinery has reduced the present volume of production to one-third that of the puppet regime.

Various grades of paper and by-products now being produced at the northeast mills, such as white newsprint, cement bag, glossy vellum, clear pulp, C-grade vellum, glossy white, onionskin, bond, paper boards, pasteboards, manila, boxboards, colored papers, tannic acid powder, and tannic acid essence.

The production of paper totaled 1,449 tons in March 1949. Included in this total are the following:

<u>Mills</u>	<u>Total Daily Output</u> (in tons)	<u>Product</u>
Chi-lin, An-tung No 3, Shih-hsien	16.92	White newsprint
Shen-yang	30.91	Pasteboards
Shen-yang	0.84	Hard papers

Production of three kinds of pulp (sulfate, wood and reed) during the same month totaled 73.42 tons. The pulp is produced in An-tung Mill No 1, Yin-k'ou Mill, and Shih-hsien Mill. The latter produced 31.62 tons of the total. Besides supplying Chi-lin and other Shen-yang plants, there is enough pulp left to fill the needs of other paper mills in China Proper.

Northeast China is rich in paper-making raw materials. It has an abundant supply of reeds: rice straw, hemp, cotton, and lace-bark pine (*pinus bungeana*). Essential for producing wood pulp and reed pulp respectively, the pine and reed are also utilized in making synthetic threads. Rice straw is used by the Shen-yang plants to produce pasteboard and other hard paper. Waste cotton and hemp are used extensively by three An-tung mills to make cigarette paper.

During 1949 and 1950 the reconstruction of the K'ai-shan Mill and the construction of a copper-screen plant are planned.

Preliminary work on the K'ai-shan Mill has been completed and other work is being finished rapidly. Repairs on buildings and machinery also have been completed on the copper-screen plant. Good-grade copper-screens, essential for paper-making, will be in production soon. Heretofore, the hand-made copper-screens obtained from T'ien-ching were being used for pulp shifting. These screens have proved very unsatisfactory. Because of the uneven sizes of the copper gratings, the pulp either leaks out through the mesh or the water remains on the screen. The production of good-grade screens at the copper-screen plant should end this problem.

The installation of five paper-making machines in the Chi-lin Mill and one in each of the An-tung plants is also planned for 1949. Stone rotary kilns for sulfate processing would also be furnished in these plants.

Finally, this year's goal is to produce 23,804 tons of pulp and 25,191 tons of paper.

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Every effort is now being concentrated on increasing production. It is hoped that the day will not be far off when the Northeast China paper industry will attain self-sufficiency, with a surplus for shipment abroad.

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